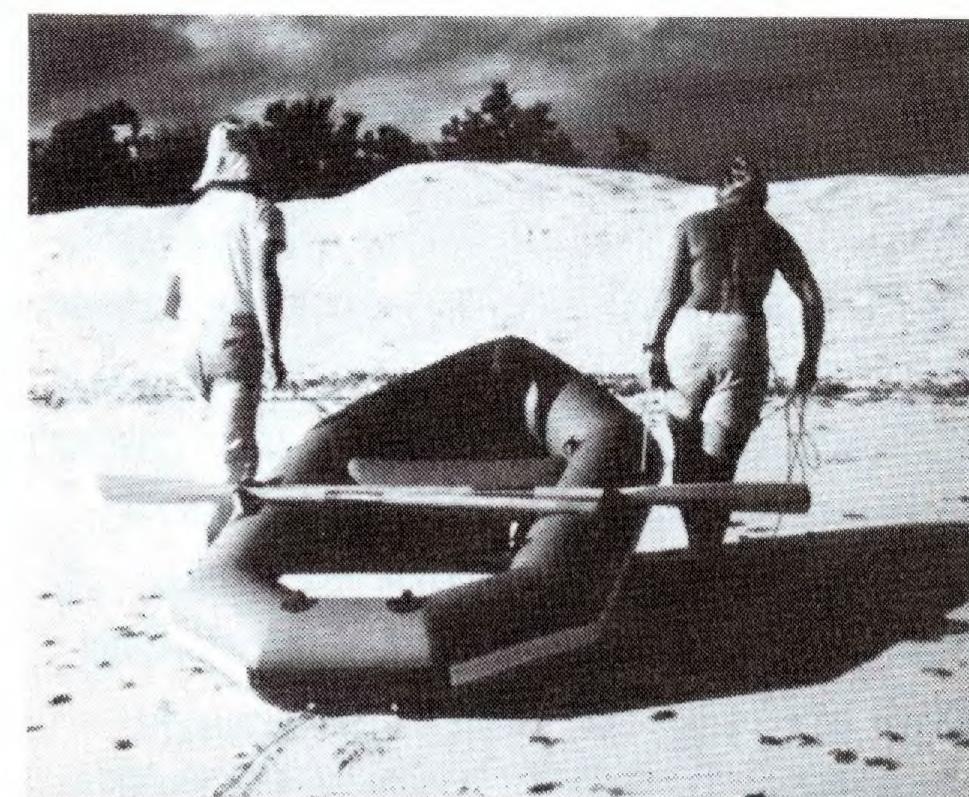


The ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

October 1988



October Members' Meetings



Bob Swift

Landing on a Galapagos Island

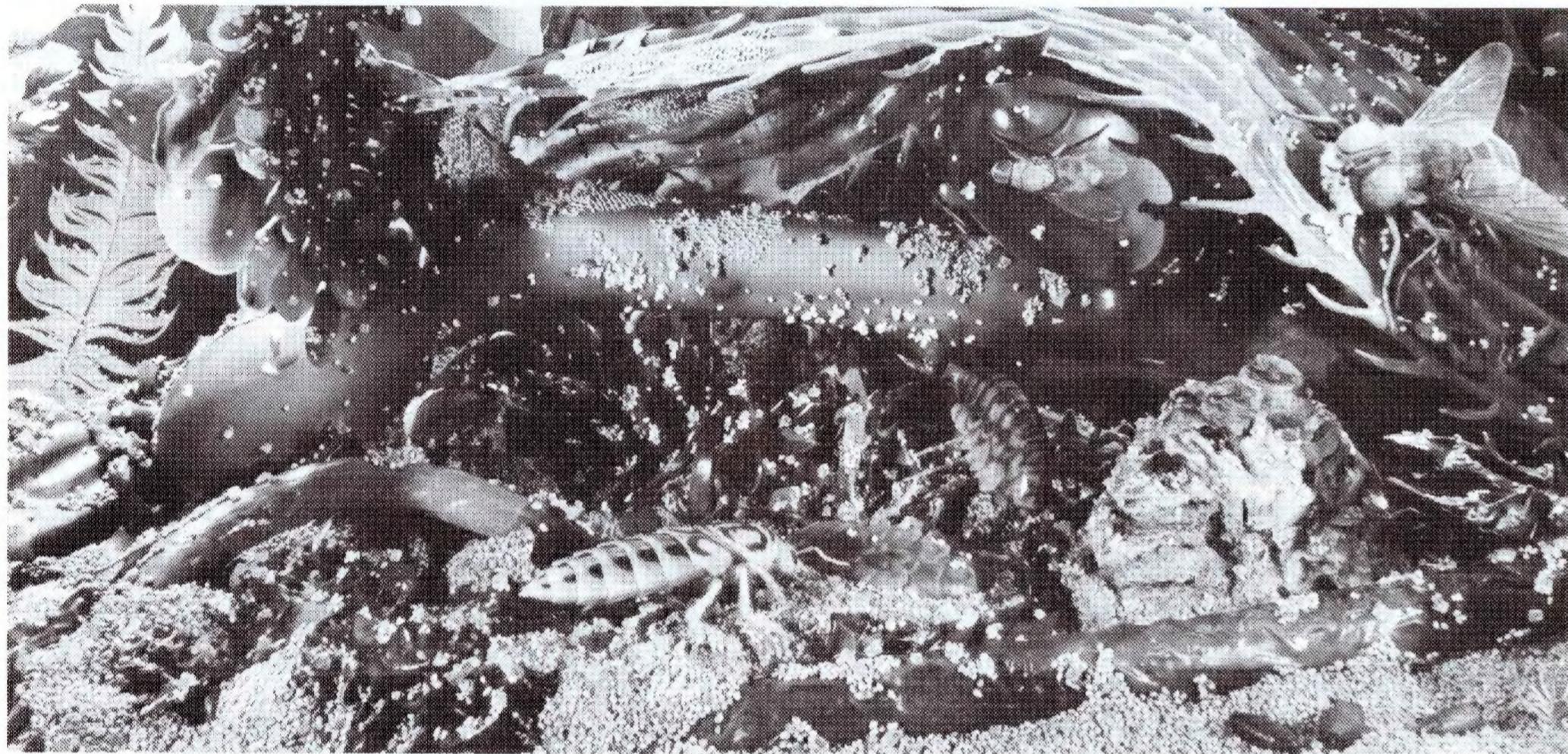
For some travelers the final destination isn't always the primary part of the trip; it's the adventure along the way that matters most. This was exactly the case when Academy Chief Engineer and naturalist Joe Brennan made a sea voyage from Sausalito to the Galapagos and back with two others in a 34-foot boat. On Wednesday, October 12 at 2:00 and 7:30 p.m. and Thursday, October 13 at 7:30 p.m., Brennan will share his adventure at sea in Members' Meetings slide-lectures, "Sailing to the Galapagos."

In preparation for the four month trip, Brennan took a course in celestial navigation at the Academy's Morrison Planetarium, where he learned how to chart his vessel by the stars. Since this first trip in 1972, he has been back to the Galapagos five times as a group leader and naturalist. In his lecture, Brennan will present a layman's perspective on the Galapagos, accompanied by spectacular color slides of the 51-day Pacific Ocean trek.

In addition to working as the Academy's Chief Engineer, Brennan has led numerous Adventure Travel trips to China, Bhutan, Ecuador, Pakistan and Patagonia. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Biology from UC Berkeley.

The November 16 and 17 Members' Meetings will be given by Bernie Krause, whose specialties include bioacoustics and environmental arts and education, on "A Month with the Mountain Gorillas." The Academy Store will be open before and after Joe Brennan's evening lectures.

Wild California Opens!



Susan Middleton

The Beach Wrack diorama is a 50-times life-size view of a cupful of seaweed

Wild California: A State of Diversity, the Academy's newest hall devoted to the natural history of the Golden State, officially opens to the public on October 9 with a grand party on the Music Concourse. The full-day of family-oriented fun spills from the Academy's steps into the park with live entertainment in the bandshell, costumed performers strolling through the Concourse and a variety of creative activities, including mural drawing and magic shows.

More than two years in the making, Wild California is the first of the great halls in the Academy's Master Plan which will carry the museum proudly into the next century. Located in Meyer Hall, a renovation of North American Hall built in 1916, Wild California incorporates videos, full-scale animal models, ambient sound effects and 13 magnificent dioramas, providing visitors with an unforgettable view of the variety and drama of the California landscape. On your visit, please take

note that the Tule Marsh diorama, formerly the Tule Elk Group, was funded by Academy members.

In celebration of the official opening, we have gathered an exciting line-up of performers, including the rhythm & blues musicians of Zasu Pitts Memorial Orchestra, Grammy nominees Parachute Express, Latin Jazz legend Pete Escovedo, Dennis Hysom of "Adventures of the Wooley Cat" fame, new vaudevillian Derique McGee, magician Patrick Martin, story teller and clown Sarah Felder and puppeteer Linda Arnold. The Music Concourse will resound with music and fun, emceed by comedian Michael Meehan. In the morning, visitors will have the opportunity to make festive masks in preparation for the big Wild California parade around the Music Concourse beginning at 11:30 a.m. Mark your calendars for Sunday, October 9, and bring the whole family to see Wild California.

Study Nature this Fall!

It's time to treat yourself to the fascinating experience of an Adult Education course or study tour. The Fall 1988 Calendar is hot off the press, and we're offering many new and unique opportunities for you to learn more about the natural world, the Academy and yourself. Here's a sampling of some of the courses that are still available:

The Making of Wild California October 12-26

A close look at how our scientists and exhibits staff planned and constructed the newest hall at the Academy.

The Biology of Fishes October 6-27

An introductory look at the largest group of vertebrates with a scientist from our Ichthyology Department.

A Glimpse at Ishi Country November 14

Hear stories about Ishi, the last "Stone Age" Indian of North America, and current-day adventures into the rugged Northern California canyons where he lived.

Myth and the Stars

September 28-October 26

Discover the stars and constellations in the same way people have studied them for thousands of years, by remembering the ancient stories that give them meaning.

For more information on these classes contact the Academy Adult Education Office at 750-7100.

On Your Mark, Get Set, Help!

Join us again as we lace up our shoes for the Run to the Far Side IV. Volunteers are needed to help on race day — Sunday, November 27. Whether you are a veteran run volunteer or a novice, we have a job for you. Lend a hand, earn a T-shirt and spend a day of guaranteed fun. To sign up as a volunteer call The Run Office at (415) 750-7144.

West Coast Premiere of "Everest: The Mystery of Mallory and Irvine"

Royal Geographical Society Collection



*The 1924
Expedition
Team*

On Tuesday, November 15 at 7:30 p.m., the Academy of Sciences is pleased to present the West Coast premiere of the new historical documentary, "Everest: The Mystery of Mallory and Irvine," exploring the mysterious disappearance of George Mallory and Andrew Irvine, last seen above the clouds and "going strong for the top," just below the summit in 1924. The film combines modern footage from a 1986 Everest Expedition that recreated routes from the initial attempts on the mountain with archival footage from the 1922 and 1924 expeditions.

George Mallory was one of the first to fall under the spell of Mt. Everest after it was discovered as the tallest of all mountains barely more than a hundred years ago. When asked "Why climb Everest?" he answered with that now im-

mortal phrase, 'Because it's there.' Featuring interviews with significant members of Mallory's team, the story traces the route of Mallory and Irvine with letters, diaries and accounts, and addresses the controversial theories, evidence and possibilities surrounding the question: Did Mallory and Irvine make it to the top of Everest after disappearing up into the mountain mists and legend?

An Arcturus Film in association with BBC Northwest, "Everest: The Mystery of Mallory and Irvine" has been called the best historical climbing film ever made. We are fortunate to have producers David Breashears and Andrew Harvard with us for the screening. A reception follows the screening, sponsored by InnerAsia Expeditions, Inc. and the Mondavi Winery.

Ticket Order Form — Film Premiere of "Everest"

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Daytime phone _____

Enclosed is a check payable to the California Academy of Sciences for:

member tickets at \$5
 guest tickets at \$6

Please send this form, your check and a self-addressed, stamped envelope to:

The Special Programs Office
California Academy of Sciences
Golden Gate Park
San Francisco, CA 94118
For more information call 750-7217.

No refunds/No exchanges

Music Under the Stars in the Morrison Planetarium!



Elaine
Thornburgh
and
Judith
Nelson

The 1988 Fall Concert Series in the Academy's Morrison Planetarium features classical music, performed under the starry skies of the planetarium dome. The series gets underway with flutist Alexandra Hawley, violinist Stefan Hersh and violist Paul Hersh performing string and flute melodies, including works by Beethoven, Mozart, Hoffmeister and Max Reger on Tuesday, October 11 at 8:00 p.m. A frequent performer in chamber music ensembles as well as a virtuoso soloist, Alexandra Hawley is on the music faculty at Stanford University. She has been praised by critics for her enormous technical ability and sparkling clear tone.

On October 25, soprano Judith Nelson performs with forte pianist Elaine Thornburgh. Acclaimed for their stylish performances and excellent ensemble, they have an extensive repertoire of baroque and early classical music.

Other concerts in the series include: guitarist Josep Henriquez on November 15 and pianist Betty Woo on December 6. All concerts begin at 8:00 p.m. Tickets for the series of four concerts are \$20 for members and \$28 for non-members. Tickets for individual performances are \$6 for members and \$8 for non-members. To purchase tickets, send a check and a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Morrison Planetarium, California Academy of Sciences, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA 94118. For more information call (415) 750-7129.

A Computer Library of Fishes

The National Science Foundation has just awarded Dr. William Eschmeyer, Chairman and Senior Curator of the Academy's Ichthyology Department, a two-year grant for \$199,963 for "Informational Databases for Ichthyology" to compile a computer bank of knowledge on the scientific classification of fishes.

Information about plants and animals (distribution, ecology and biology) is organized around species (kinds) in a classification. In fishes, there are about 25,000 different species with 55,000 names. At present, there is no effective summary of our accumulated knowledge of fishes, though yearly summaries of the increase in knowledge are available. Classifications are always changing, as when scientific species names are changed or a new species is found, thus complicating the task of keeping track of information. Computers now allow for the building of databases to manage both the problems of names (taxonomy) and the accumulation of

prior knowledge. This new project builds on a previous grant that allowed the successful preparation of a database for the 13,500 genera of fishes and about 6,500 literature citations on the description or status of these genera. Preparing the "genera of fishes" for publication is one of the goals of the present project. The new project will focus on designing a system that meets the needs of the scientific community but that also can provide on-line access to the many users in need of current biological information.

Ultimately, this project can serve as a model for other biological disciplines, and it should have significant lasting value by providing increased availability of information. The Academy's Ichthyology Department houses the second most important research collection of fishes (over 1.5 million specimens) in the U.S. This virtual library of fishes will now be complemented by a comprehensive computer library of information.

Marine Medicines

The Academy is pleased to announce the publication of "Biomedical Importance of Marine Organisms," edited by Academy Director of Research Dr. Daphne G. Fautin. This volume is the Proceedings of the Third Annual California Academy of Sciences Biennial Symposium, held in 1987.

In the next decade, marine organisms will emerge as a major resource for bioactive compounds, for use as research tools and as drugs. This publication documents a valuable exchange among marine pharmacology experts.

Published by the California Academy of Sciences. 1988. 159 pages. Paper. \$20 prepaid. Members receive a 10% discount. 6.5% sales tax in California. Prepaid orders include shipping and handling. Send orders to: Scientific Publications, California Academy of Sciences, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA 94118.



Enjoy a "wild" Wild California night of dancing, dining and entertainment at the Academy's fourth annual fund-raising evening on Wednesday, November 9. Revelers at this year's black tie event will be greeted by some "enchanting" wild California creatures and have the chance to roam throughout the Academy's halls, which will be decorated with California flora and fauna. Get out your tuxedos and evening gowns for an evening of dancing to the Richard Olsen Orchestra, the steel drum beat of the Harmonics and enjoy a delicious dinner by Dan McCall & Associates. Proceeds from "Wild California" support the on-going educational programs of the Academy. Tickets for the ball start at \$175. For information please call Brenda Zimmerman at (415) 566-2500.

The Wide World of Traditional Arts



Mosheh Milon

Traditional music, dance, crafts or culinary skills from around the world are presented each Saturday at 1:00 p.m. for the Traditional Arts programs. Bay Area residents who continue to practice the cultural traditions of their native country share some aspect of their heritage in these lively performances. Traditional Arts programs are funded by the Paul L. and Phyllis Wattis Foundation and are offered free to museum visitors.

October 1 - Mosheh Milon shows us how to construct a *djembe*, one of many wooden drum types played by the Bambara people of Guinea, West Africa.

October 8 - In the spirit of an old-time kitchen party, David Surette (mandolin, guitar) and Susie Burke (vocals) present a medley of New England dance music derived from the folk traditions of European immigrants.

October 15 - Born in Israel, Naomi Teplow demonstrates the ancient Jewish art of the *ketubah*, or marriage contract — a combination of religious text in Hebrew calligraphy and richly illuminated symbolic motifs.

October 22 - Vocalist Wilma Pang performs Chinese folk songs from many provinces accompanied by Y. T. Quan on the *yangqin* (hammered "butterfly harp") and Sam Lau on the *erhu* (two-stringed spiked fiddle).

October 29 - Lynn Albert carves Hopi Indian kachina dolls and exhibits some of his recent paintings.

Fall Lecture Series

Exploring Papua New Guinea

A major traveling exhibition, "River of Mystery: The Sepik River of Papua New Guinea," gives visitors to the Academy the opportunity to see more than 160 ceremonial objects from this remote river region. In conjunction with the exhibition, visitors will also have the chance to learn more about this intriguing area and its people through a series of eight lectures. The lecture series, "Exploring Papua New Guinea," features a distinguished roster of speakers from museums and educational institutions across the U.S. All programs will be held in the Morrison Auditorium at 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, October 4 — Art Styles of the Sepik Provinces. Dr. Ross Bowden, Department of Sociology, La Trobe University, Melbourne, Australia. The Sepik provinces of Papua New Guinea are inhabited by about 200 separate groups, many, though not all of which, produce notable works of art. The styles are as varied as the cultures, and several themes prevail: the results of ancient history and recent migration.

Tuesday, October 11 — Power, Politics and Divine Artistry in a Sepik Society. Dr. Donald Tuzin, Department of Anthropology, UC San Diego. The social importance and

spiritual significance of art among the Ilahita Arapesh gives those who control it power in community activities. This lecture will explore ritual art, master artists, and the social and political significance of art in Arapesh culture.

Wednesday, October 19 — Cargo Cults. Dr. Theodore Schwartz, Department of Anthropology, UC San Diego. Cargo cults have occurred in many parts of New Guinea and Melanesia. It is typically believed that the ancestors are soon to return in ships or planes, bringing with them the almost unimaginable wealth of the Europeans.

Wednesday, October 26 — The Art of Body Adornment in the New Guinea Highlands. Dr. Andrew Strether, Department of Anthropology, University of Pittsburgh.

In the highlands of New Guinea, the person becomes a central focus for artistic elaboration and transformation. Headdresses, wigs and face paint are among the items used to enhance a person as an individual and a performer of social roles.

Tuesday, November 1 — Anthropology and the Puzzle of Cannibalism: Images of the Cannibal and Acts of Cannibalism among the Bimin-Kuskusmin of the West Sepik of Papua New Guinea. Dr. Fitz John Poole, Department of Anthropology, UC San Diego.

Thursday, November 10 — Gender Rituals: Coming of Age in Papua New Guinea. Dr. Nancy Lutkehaus, Department of Anthropology, University of Southern California.



Ticket Order Form — Exploring Papua New Guinea

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Daytime phone _____

Enclosed is a check payable to the California Academy of Sciences for:
____ member tickets at \$5
____ guest tickets at \$6

No refunds/No exchanges

Please indicate which lectures you are interested in when purchasing individual tickets.

Please send this form, your check and a self-addressed, stamped envelope to:

The Special Programs Office
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San Francisco, CA 94118
For more information call
750-7217.

Academy Elects New Fellows

On October 4, Dr. James C. Kelley, President of the California Academy of Sciences, will welcome 15 new members as Fellows of the Academy. Fellows are chosen for their contributions to science and active participation in advancing the research and educational goals of the Academy. By charter, the number of Fellows is limited to 300 individuals elected for life.

The new Fellows are: Dr. Richard T. Barber, Executive Director, Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute; Dr. Richard K. Benjamin, Mycologist, Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden and Professor of Botany, Claremont Graduate School; Robert D. Brown, Jr., Geologist, Branch of Engineering Seismology and Geology, U.S. Geological Survey; Dr. Thomas S. Elias, Director of Botany and Chairman, Department of Botany, Claremont Graduate School; Dr. James M. Lyons, Professor and Acting Director, Office of Program Planning and Evaluation, Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources, and Director, Statewide Integrated Pest Management Program, University of California, Davis; Dr. Henry M. McHenry, Chair, Department of Anthropology, University of California, Davis; Dr. Howard S. Shellhammer, Professor of Biology, San Jose State University; Dr. Leighton R. Taylor, Jr., Director of

Public Programs, California Academy of Sciences; Dr. O. Brian Toon, Research Scientist in Atmospheric Science, Ames Research Center, National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

There is also a category of Honorary Fellows who are unable to actively participate, but whose contributions to science merit recognition. The new Honorary Fellows are: Dr. E. N. Arnold, Chairman of Herpetology, British Museum of Natural History; Dr. Stephen H. Bullock, Resident Ecologist, Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico; Anne Howland Ehrlich, Senior Research Associate, Biological Sciences, Stanford University; Dr. George C. Gorman, President, Ninth of July Corporation, former Professor of Biology, UCLA; Dr. C. Don MacNeill, Senior Curator, Department of Natural Sciences, Oakland Museum; Dr. Harold F. Weaver, Professor of Astronomy, University of California, Berkeley. Each year the Fellows' Medal is awarded to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to science. This year the medal will be awarded to Dr. Peter H. Raven, Director of the Missouri Botanical Garden for his lifetime of contributions to the field of botany and, specifically, rainforest preservation.

Academy Expeditions

Academy Expeditions in 1989 offer a busy schedule of wild and wonderful tours across the globe. Beginning with tours of Antarctica and the Falklands and a tent Safari to Tanzania in January, next year's Expeditions go off the beaten path for an insider's guide to the natural world. Here's the complete list of 11 upcoming great escapes:

Antarctica and the Falkland Islands

January 9-25

Leader: Dr. John McCosker

Tanzania Tenting Safari

January 26-February 11

Leader: Beth Dunbar

Filled — Waiting list only

Costa Rica

March 28-April 8

Leader: Dr. Frank Almeda

The Silk Road

April 30-May 24

Leader: Nancy Pickford

Mongolia and Siberia

June 8-July 1

Filled—Waiting list only

Foods of France

June 17-July 2

Greenland and the Canadian Arctic

July 26-August 9

Leader: Dr. James Kelley

Canada: Prairies and Peaks

August 2-13

Caravans of Central Asia:

Samarkand, Tashkent, Bukhara

September 9-22

Namibia and Botswana: A Safari

September 11-29

New Zealand, Tasmania, and Australia

September 27-October 17

Leader: Dr. Frank H. Talbot

For information on Academy expeditions call the Academy's Travel Office at (415)750-7222.

Young Audiences of the Bay Area

The Young Audiences Program, now in its fifth year at the Academy, is a series of cultural arts performances designed to introduce young people to the world of music, dance, poetry, opera and theater. The 1988 season begins on Sunday, October 30 at 1:00 p.m. with a puppet-theater performance by Puppetwork, featuring a creative portrayal of the lives of dinosaurs in prehistoric times, and what it would be like if dinosaurs were alive today. The show consists of several sequences showing

dinosaurs in their natural habitat, alternating with humorous hypotheses about modern-day dinosaurs — just how many Big Macs does it take to feed a *Tyrannosaurus rex*?

These monthly programs are sponsored by Young Audiences of the Bay Area, Inc., a nonprofit organization with funding from the McKesson Foundation and Grants For the Arts. Performances are free after regular admission to the museum.

3/22

Please Expedite
Time Dated Material
#582

(415) 221-5100
San Francisco, California 94118-9961
Golden Gate Park

Information Inside!
Wild California

Open daily 10 am to 5 pm

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 7544
San Francisco



October at a Glance

- 1 Traditional Arts — West African wooden drums 1:00 p.m.
- 4 Exploring Papua New Guinea 7:30 p.m.
- 8 Traditional Arts—New England dance music 1:00 p.m.
- 9 Wild California opens
- 11 Exploring Papua New Guinea 7:30 p.m.
- 11 Planetarium concert—Alexandra Hawley, Stefan Hersh and Paul Hersh 8 p.m.
- 12 Members' Meetings "Sailing to the Galapagos" 2:00 and 7:30 p.m.
- 13 Members' Meeting 7:30 p.m.
- 15 Traditional Arts—Jewish marriage contract 1:00 p.m.
- 19 Exploring Papua New Guinea 7:30 p.m.
- 22 Traditional Arts—Chinese folk songs 1:00 p.m.
- 25 Planetarium concert—Judith Nelson with Elaine Thornburgh 8 p.m.
- 26 Exploring Papua New Guinea 7:30 p.m.
- 29 Traditional Arts—Hopi kachinas 1:00 p.m.



Celebrate the opening of Wild California with grizzly confections from the Academy Store. Satisfy your sweet tooth with a solid bittersweet or milk chocolate bear by Cocolat®. Also commemorating the exhibit are patches, pins and an array of books on discovering California's abundant flora and fauna. Look for the Wild California poster and new merchandise coming soon.

Looking Ahead to November

- 1 Exploring Papua New Guinea lecture 7:30 p.m.
- 10 Exploring Papua New Guinea lecture 7:30 p.m.
- 16 Members' Meetings—A Month with the Mountain Gorillas 2 and 7:30 p.m.
- 17 Members Meeting 7:30 p.m.